

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of PCT/FR01/02452

Olivier MARCE Attorney Docket Q69109

Appln. No.: Not Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Assigned Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

Filed: March 27, 2002 Examiner: Not Assigned

For: A METHOD OF SETTING UP A CALL WITH A PREDETERMINED SET OF
REQUIRED SERVICES AND/OR CHARACTERISTICS, AND A CORRESPONDING
NETWORK

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that it consists:

in sending said set of requested services and/or characteristics to the negotiator unit (Ni) of each domain (Di) situated along the or any possible transmission path for the call to be set up, or having at least one resource (Ri) which might be involved in said call;

in determining via said negotiator units (Ni) and in each of the above-specified domains, which resources (Ri) are available and suitable for contributing to setting up and implementing said call in full or partial compliance with the requested set of services and/or characteristics;

in collecting and evaluating the information supplied by the addressed negotiator units (Ni); and

in setting up the call as a function of the results of said evaluation and after reserving suitable resources (Ri) in the domains (Di) concerned.

4. (Amended)A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the set of services and/or characteristics requested for the call is set by the user (U1) that initiates the call, and in that the call setup request and the requests associated therewith are sent to the negotiator unit (Ni) of the domain (Di) in which the user issues the call request and the associated requests, which unit analyzes them and forwards them to the negotiator units (Ni) that might become involved.

5. (Amended)A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the resources (Ri) available in the various domains (Di) are selected from the group formed by: transmission network resources; computation and data processing resource; connection resources; communications protocol resources; data and information playback resources; database resources or analogous information storage resources; interfacing resources; and other resources (Ri) depending on each of the negotiator units (Ni) under consideration.

6. (Amended)A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the characteristics of the call to be set up are selected from the group formed by the destination (U2),

the nature and the quality of the call, the duration of the call, the time at which the call is to be set up if it is to be set in deferred time, the maximum cost per unit time, or the like.

7. (Amended)A method according to claim 1, characterized in that it consists in weighting the various parameters making up the set of requested services and/or characteristics in terms of importance or of preference.

8. (Amended)A method according to claim 1, characterized in that if the negotiator unit (Ni) of the domain in which or via which the user (U1) that issued the call setup request is connected to the network is not in a position to satisfy adequately the services and/or characteristics requested by said user (U1), then it submits to said user, for selection and agreement, one or more call setup options approximately satisfying the set of services and/or characteristics as initially requested, with this optionally taking place prior to reserving the resources (Ri) concerned or prior to confirming such reservation with the negotiator units (Ni) of the resources (Ri) or services concerned.

11. (Amended)A network according to claim 9, characterized in that it is constituted by the Internet, and in that it implements the method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, on any request from a user (U1) of any one of its component domains (Di) in order to set up a call between said user and the desired destination(s) (U2) and/or to supply the requested service(s).

Attorney Docket Q69109
Preliminary Amendment

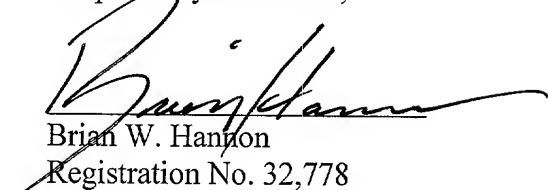
12. (Amended) An optionally mobile terminal, characterized by the fact that it forms a portion of a network according to claim 9.

Attorney Docket Q69109
Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian W. Hannon
Registration No. 32,778
for David J. Cushing
Registration No. 28,703

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: March 27, 2002

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

3. (Amended)A method according to claim 1 or ~~claim 2~~, characterized in that it consists:

in sending said set of requested services and/or characteristics to the negotiator unit (Ni) of each domain (Di) situated along the or any possible transmission path for the call to be set up, or having at least one resource (Ri) which might be involved in said call;

in determining via said negotiator units (Ni) and in each of the above-specified domains, which resources (Ri) are available and suitable for contributing to setting up and implementing said call in full or partial compliance with the requested set of services and/or characteristics;

in collecting and evaluating the information supplied by the addressed negotiator units (Ni); and

in setting up the call as a function of the results of said evaluation and after reserving suitable resources (Ri) in the domains (Di) concerned.

4. (Amended)A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, characterized in that the set of services and/or characteristics requested for the call is set by the user (U1) that initiates the call, and in that the call setup request and the requests associated therewith are sent

to the negotiator unit (Ni) of the domain (Di) in which the user issues the call request and the associated requests, which unit analyzes them and forwards them to the negotiator units (Ni) that might become involved.

5. (Amended)A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, characterized in that the resources (Ri) available in the various domains (Di) are selected from the group formed by: transmission network resources; computation and data processing resource; connection resources; communications protocol resources; data and information playback resources; database resources or analogous information storage resources; interfacing resources; and other resources (Ri) depending on each of the negotiator units (Ni) under consideration.

6. (Amended)A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, characterized in that the characteristics of the call to be set up are selected from the group formed by the destination (U2), the nature and the quality of the call, the duration of the call, the time at which the call is to be set up if it is to be set in deferred time, the maximum cost per unit time, or the like.

7. (Amended)A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, characterized in that it consists in weighting the various parameters making up the set of requested services and/or characteristics in terms of importance or of preference.

Attorney Docket Q69109
Preliminary Amendment

8. (Amended)A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, characterized in that if the negotiator unit (Ni) of the domain in which or via which the user (U1) that issued the call setup request is connected to the network is not in a position to satisfy adequately the services and/or characteristics requested by said user (U1), then it submits to said user, for selection and agreement, one or more call setup options approximately satisfying the set of services and/or characteristics as initially requested, with this optionally taking place prior to reserving the resources (Ri) concerned or prior to confirming such reservation with the negotiator units (Ni) of the resources (Ri) or services concerned.

11. (Amended)A network according to claim 9 or ~~claim 10~~, characterized in that it is constituted by the Internet, and in that it implements the method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, on any request from a user (U1) of any one of its component domains (Di) in order to set up a call between said user and the desired destination(s) (U2) and/or to supply the requested service(s).

12. (Amended)An optionally mobile terminal, characterized by the fact that it forms a portion of a network according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 14~~claim 9.